



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
**EXECUTIVE BRANCH ETHICS COMMISSION**

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FRANKFORT, KY – At its meeting today the Executive Branch Ethics Commission presented Benjamin Long, General Counsel, Public Protection Cabinet (PPC), with its annual Outstanding Ethics Officer Award for 2021. The Commission established this annual award program in 2015 to recognize an individual serving as a designated Ethics Officer for an executive branch agency for his or her outstanding achievement and contributions in promoting the ethical conduct of executive branch employees while serving as an Ethics Officer.

Mr. Long was awarded for his efforts to enforce the Executive Branch Code of Ethics while serving as a designated Ethics Officer and implementing policies and procedures for the effective enforcement of the Ethics Code.

Mr. Long currently serves as General Counsel for the PPC and previously served as the Ethics Officer for the Labor Cabinet. In addition to serving for the greater PPC, Mr. Long also serves as the designated Ethics Officer for the following entities: Office of Alcoholic Beverage Control, Boxing and Wrestling Commission, Office of Charitable Gaming, Office of Claims and Appeals, Department of Financial Institutions, Department for Housing, Buildings, and Construction, Department of Insurance, Department for Professional Licensing, Kentucky Real Estate Authority, and State Fire Marshall's Office.

Since Mr. Long became an Ethics Officer in 2020, he has demonstrated a remarkable concern for ensuring that his agencies, boards, and commissions, not only follow the Ethics Code, but also operate beyond the dictates of the Code. Mr. Long has been integral in referring investigations to the Commission and assisting with the gathering of evidence and witnesses for the Commission's investigations. Mr. Long has been very accommodating to the Commission staff in the collection of Statements of Financial Disclosure from officers. He has demonstrated a personal concern for the integrity of his agencies that exceeds his contemporaries. Mr. Long is friendly, diligent, and helpful without complaint.

Before serving the Public Protection Cabinet, Mr. Long previously worked at the Kentucky Office of Attorney General, most recently serving as Executive Director of Consumer Protection and prior to that as Executive Director of Civil & Environmental Law. Before joining the Attorney General's Office, he spent two years as an Equal Justice Works AmeriCorps Legal Fellow stationed at the Appalachian Research & Defense Fund.

Mr. Long obtained his undergraduate degree from Transylvania University, where he was a William T. Young Scholar, and his law degree from the University of Kentucky College of Law, where he was a Bert Combs Scholar. After completing his legal studies, he served as a law clerk to Hon. David L. Bunning in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Kentucky, at Covington.

When he's not lawyering, he enjoys spending time with his wife and three children, gardening, coaching youth sports, and trying (and failing) to learn German.